

CLAIMS:

1. A method of providing navigational capabilities to a vehicle not originally equipped with such capabilities, the method comprising the steps of:
 - 5 removing at least one non-navigational component from the vehicle, wherein removal of the non-navigational component creates an open port; installing a mounting assembly within the open port; and attaching a navigational device to the mounting assembly, such that the mounting assembly is configured to linearly raise and lower the navigational device
 - 10 between a raised position, wherein at least one-half of the navigational device is positioned within the open port, and a lowered position, wherein more than one-half of the navigational device is positioned outside the open port.
- 15 2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mounting assembly is operable to pivot the navigational device left and right relative to the open port.
3. The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the non-navigational component was originally installed in the vehicle during manufacture of the vehicle.
- 20 4. The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the non-navigational component is housed in an overhead console of the vehicle.
5. The method as claimed in claim 1, the navigational device including a display
- 25 for displaying navigation and other information.
6. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein when the navigational device is in the raised position, only a lower portion of the display may be viewed, and when the navigational device is in the lowered position, substantially all of the display may be
- 30 viewed.
7. The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein when the navigational device is in the raised position, information, such as heading, temperature, and current location, may be displayed on the lower portion of the display.

8. A mounting assembly for mounting a navigational device in an open port of a vehicle resulting from removal of a non-navigational component, the mounting assembly comprising:

5 a mount for coupling with the open port; and
a support plate rotatably secured to the mount and extending therefrom,
wherein the navigational device is secured to the support plate, such that the
navigational device extends generally transverse therefrom, and
wherein the mounting assembly is configured to raise and lower the navigational
device in a generally linear direction between at least two viewing
10 positions.

9. The mounting assembly as claimed in claim 8, the mount including -
an upper back wall,
left and right side walls coupled with the upper back wall,
15 an angled lower back wall coupled with the left and right side walls, and
left and right extending top walls coupled with the upper back wall.

10. The mounting assembly as claimed in claim 9, wherein the support plate is
rotatably secured to the upper back wall.

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11. The mounting assembly as claimed in claim 9, the mount including a
positioning mechanism for removably positioning the navigational device in the at least
two viewing positions.

25 12. The mounting assembly as claimed in claim 11, wherein the positioning
mechanism is coupled with the right side wall of the mount.

13. The mounting assembly as claimed in claim 12, the positioning mechanism
including a stem providing a generally vertical axis along which the navigational device
30 may be raised and lowered.

14. A navigation assembly comprising:

a navigational device including -

a navigation component,

a processor coupled with the navigation component for calculating a

5 location of the navigational device,

a memory coupled with the processor for storing cartographic data, and

a display; and

a mounting assembly for mounting in an open port of a vehicle resulting from

removal of a non-navigational component, the mounting assembly

10 operable to mount the navigational device and to generally linearly raise

and lower the mounted navigational device between at least two linear

viewing positions, such that in a first, raised position, only a lower portion

of the display may be viewed, and in a second, lowered position,

substantially all of the display may be viewed.

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15. The navigation assembly as claimed in claim 14, wherein the non-

navigational component was removed from an overhead console of the vehicle.

16. The navigation assembly as claimed in claim 15, wherein when the

20 navigational device is in the raised position, information, such as heading, temperature,

and current location, may be displayed on the lower portion of the display.

17. The navigation assembly as claimed in claim 16, wherein the mounting

assembly is operable to pivot the navigational device left and right relative to the open

25 port.

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18. A navigation assembly sized and configured to mount within an open port of a vehicle resulting from removal of a non-navigational component, the navigation assembly comprising:

a navigational device including -

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a navigation component,

a processor coupled with the navigation component for calculating a location of the navigational device,

a memory coupled with the processor for storing cartographic data,

a display, and

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a portable housing for housing the navigation component, the processor, the memory, and the display; and

a mounting assembly for mounting the housing within the open port and configured such that the housing may be linearly raised or lowered between at least two viewing positions, wherein in a first, raised position, approximately one-thirds to three-fourths of the housing is positioned within the open port, and in a second, lowered position, approximately none to one-half of the housing is positioned within the open port, and further such that the housing may be pivoted left and right relative to the open port.

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19. The navigation assembly as claimed in claim 18, wherein the non-navigational component was removed from an overhead console of the vehicle.

20. The navigation assembly as claimed in claim 19, wherein the non-navigational component was originally installed in the vehicle during manufacture of the vehicle.

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21. A method of providing navigational capabilities to a vehicle not originally equipped with such capabilities, the method comprising the steps of:

removing at least one non-navigational component from the vehicle, such that removal of the non-navigational component creates an open port;

5 installing a mounting assembly in the open port; and

attaching a navigational device having a display to the mounting assembly, wherein the navigational device may be rotated about a generally transverse axis and may be raised or lowered among three generally linear viewing positions,

10 wherein when the navigational device is in a first, stowed position, substantially none of the display may be viewed, when the navigational device is in a second, intermediate position, only a lower portion of the display may be viewed, and when the navigational device is in a third, lowered position, substantially all of the display may be viewed.

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22. The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the non-navigational component was originally installed in the vehicle during manufacture of the vehicle.

23. The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the non-navigational component
20 is housed in an overhead console of the vehicle.

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24. A navigation assembly comprising:
a navigational device including -
a navigation component,
a processor coupled with the navigation component for calculating a
5 location of the navigational device,
a memory coupled with the processor for storing cartographic data, and
a display; and
a mounting assembly for mounting in an open port of a vehicle resulting from
removal of a non-navigational component, the mounting assembly
10 operable to mount the navigational device and to generally linearly raise
and lower the mounted navigational device among three generally linear
viewing positions, such that in a first, stowed position, substantially none
of the display can be viewed, in a second, intermediate position, only a
lower portion of the display may be viewed, and in a third, lowered
15 position, substantially all of the display may be viewed.

25. The navigation assembly as claimed in claim 24, wherein the navigational
device is operable to pivot left and right about a generally transverse axis.

20 26. The navigation assembly as claimed in claim 24, wherein the non-
navigational component was removed from an overhead console of the vehicle.

27. The navigation assembly as claimed in claim 25, wherein the navigational
device may be rotated about the generally transverse axis when the navigational device
25 is in either the intermediate or lowered position.

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